(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken by Government thereon;

(e) whether it is also a fact that despite the inquiry report, the selection process is on; and

(f) if so, the remedial steps initiated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

Development of Central universities on the pattern of IITs

50. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have planned to develop Central universities on the pattern of IITs in the country; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the necessary steps being taken by Government to make the above arrangements in all universities for choosing IIT by the poor educated youths in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (d) While the IITs function under the Institutes of Technology Act, the Central Universities function under the respective Acts with multiple disciplines. The focus of IITs is primarily to provide for instruction and research in the branches of engineering and technology. There is no proposal to develop Central universities on the pattern of IITs.

Suggestion of NKC

51. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Knowledge Commission has suggested setting up of 50 national universities in the country to improve and expand the higher education system; and